

## EACP Committee

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**From:** Lucid Vibrations <stonerwailani5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2019 8:49 AM  
**To:** EACP Committee  
**Subject:** Visitor Impacts to County Environmental and Infrastructural Resources: Testimony

Aloha Kakou,

My name is Wailani Stoner. I was born and raised on the East side of Maui in the Ko'olau district. My 'Ohana and I, on average, drive the Hāna Highway 3-5 times a week. Over the years since I was a little girl I've noticed the major influx of vehicles and visitors along the road to Hāna, as well as the dangers and potential threats visitors have on themselves, East Maui residents and all who travel on the road. The disrespect these visitors have for locals and native tenants of this land is outrageous. They have no real knowledge of the cultural and subsistence practices we live by. I believe most of it derives from the lack of visitor education by the State of Hawai'i. We are 4 times over capacity on our island and that as well shows where the State of Hawai'i is lacking. There are many issues we face while driving the road just to get to the store or a doctor's appointment. The severity of illegal parking on the road, the trespassing of private property, the illegal commercial activity and commercial activity within our sacred sites has had a major impact on our environment, our culture and resources we rely on to survive. We are lucky that our Lāhui stepped up and have founded the Hāna highway regulation. Along with their Visitor safety experts or Rangers, they have already made positive and noticeable efforts in decreasing the illegal parked cars on our drives out, a decrease in the blatant disrespect of visitors for private property signage and less disrespect to our ahupua'a by the legal and illegal commercial activity within our sacred sites. I have recently been informed about the Hāna Highway regulations visitor safety system study and I believe this could potentially be a solution for the situation at hand. It has already proven to be over 90% effective when there are on site rangers educating the visitors about these issues. The rangers have never prohibited access to visitors, they have always provided measures that encourage better behavior along the Hāna Highway and they have enhanced visitor and residential safety. They provide place-specific native intelligence to decrease the probability of unfortunate circumstances for visitors. These issues need to be faced as soon as possible before it becomes even more serious. As a resident and Native tenant of East Maui, I am tired of these daily issues occurring and the persons in charge of protecting the land and peoples of this land turning a blind eye to these problems. I am in full support of the Hāna highway regulations efforts in keeping our people safe, our environment thriving and our sacred sites protected.

Mahalo for your time.

Sincerely, Wailani and 'Ohana.